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ABSTRACT

Throughout the United States, many Filipino Americans, especially students, are beginning to want to know more about their cultural heritage and future. Overall, there has been very little written to transmit knowledge about Filipino history, ideas, and values, even though Filipinos make up the largest Asian ethnic group in the United States. Compilation of this volume marks the centennial of the beginning of the decline of Spanish rule in the Philippine Islands. People of Filipino heritage have experiences that are very different from those of other Asian American groups in the United States, because of religion, culture, and history. Instead of offering a single perspective on Filipino Americans, the 30 contributors (in 23 selections) to this volume present multiple perspectives that demonstrate the multiple realities of Filipinos in the United States. Social workers, community leaders, health care workers, educators, and social scientists consider ethnic identity, colonization, family relationships, race, and racism. For Filipinos, as for indigenous people of the Americas and Hawaii, U.S. paradigms of race are useless. The resilience of Filipinos defies the images that colonists have used to justify domination of the country. References follow each chapter. (SLD)

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